





WHERE ARE
MY MANNERS? I DON'T
BELIEVE THE TWO OF YOU
HAVE BEEN FORMALLY
INTRODUCED.





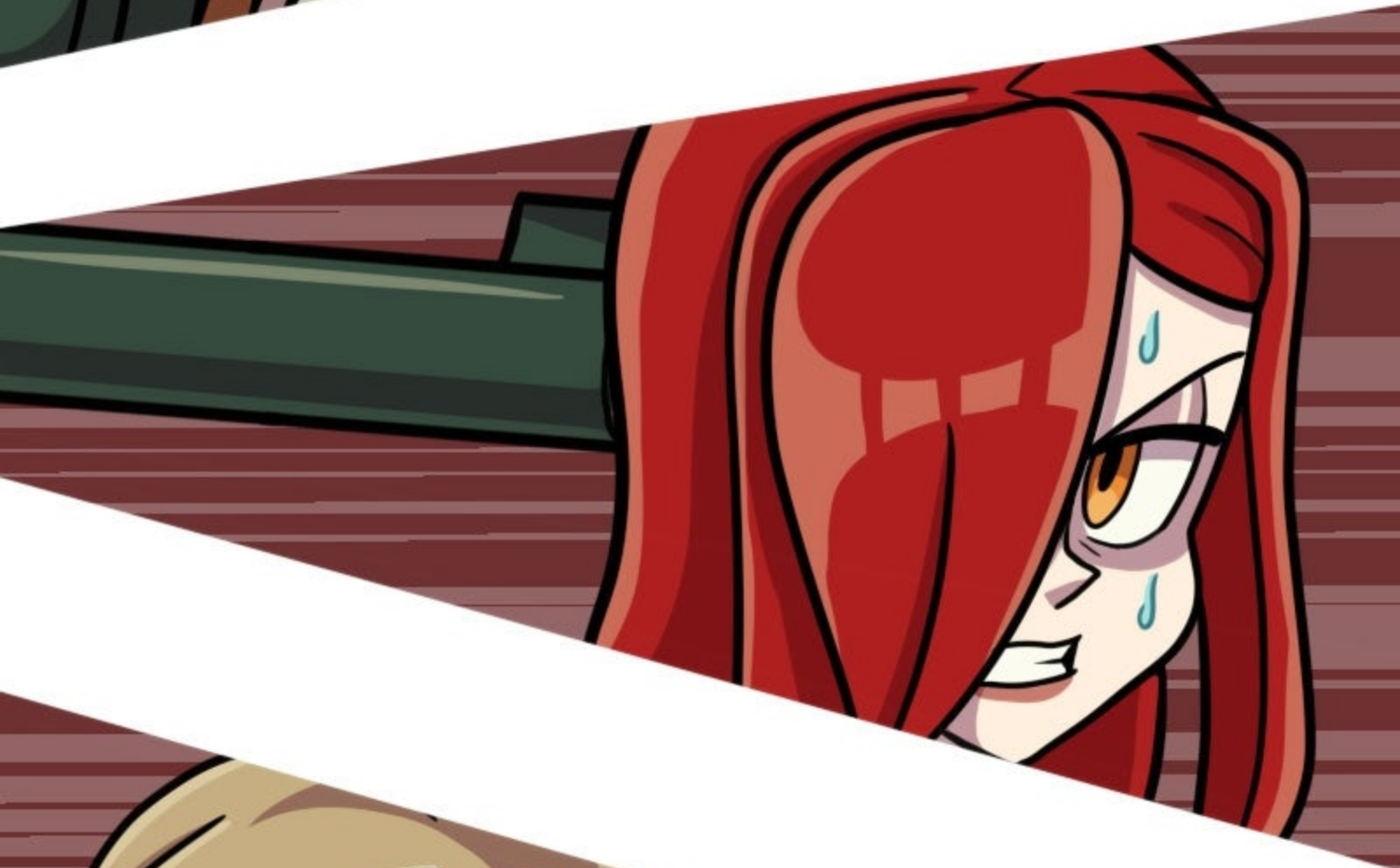
PRINCESS PARASOUL,
MEET BLACK DAHLIA.







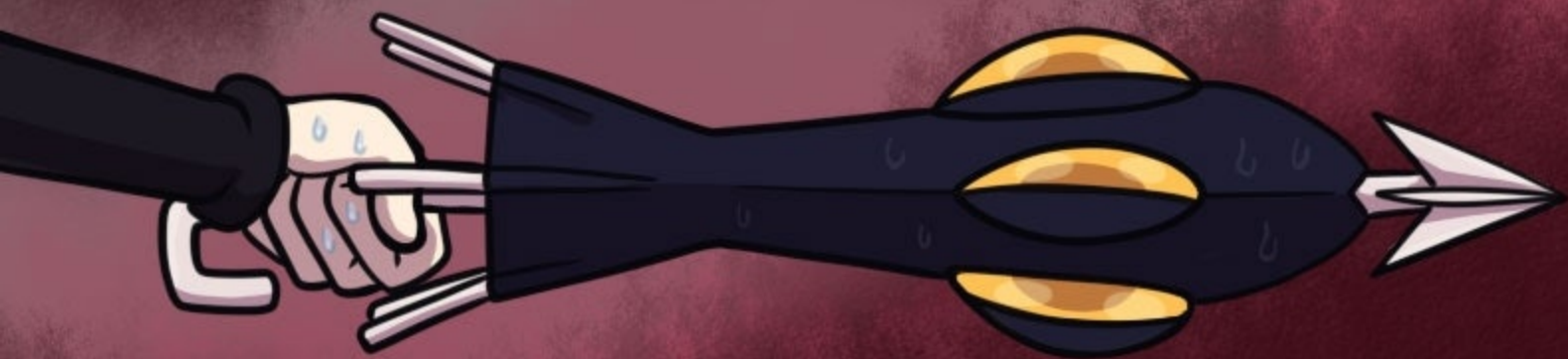
ONE OF OUR FINEST...
HEAD-HUNTERS.





AND AS YOU CAN
PROBABLY SURMISE,
IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG
FOR HER TO CONDUCT
HER BUSINESS.

NOW I'M SURE
HER HIGHNESS DOESN'T
WISH TO END OUR MEETING
PREMATURELY, SO WHY
DOESN'T SHE LOWER
HER WEAPON...



MAYBE SHE KNOWS
AS WELL AS I DO THAT THIS
ISN'T THE KIND OF MEETING
YOU END BY TALKING.



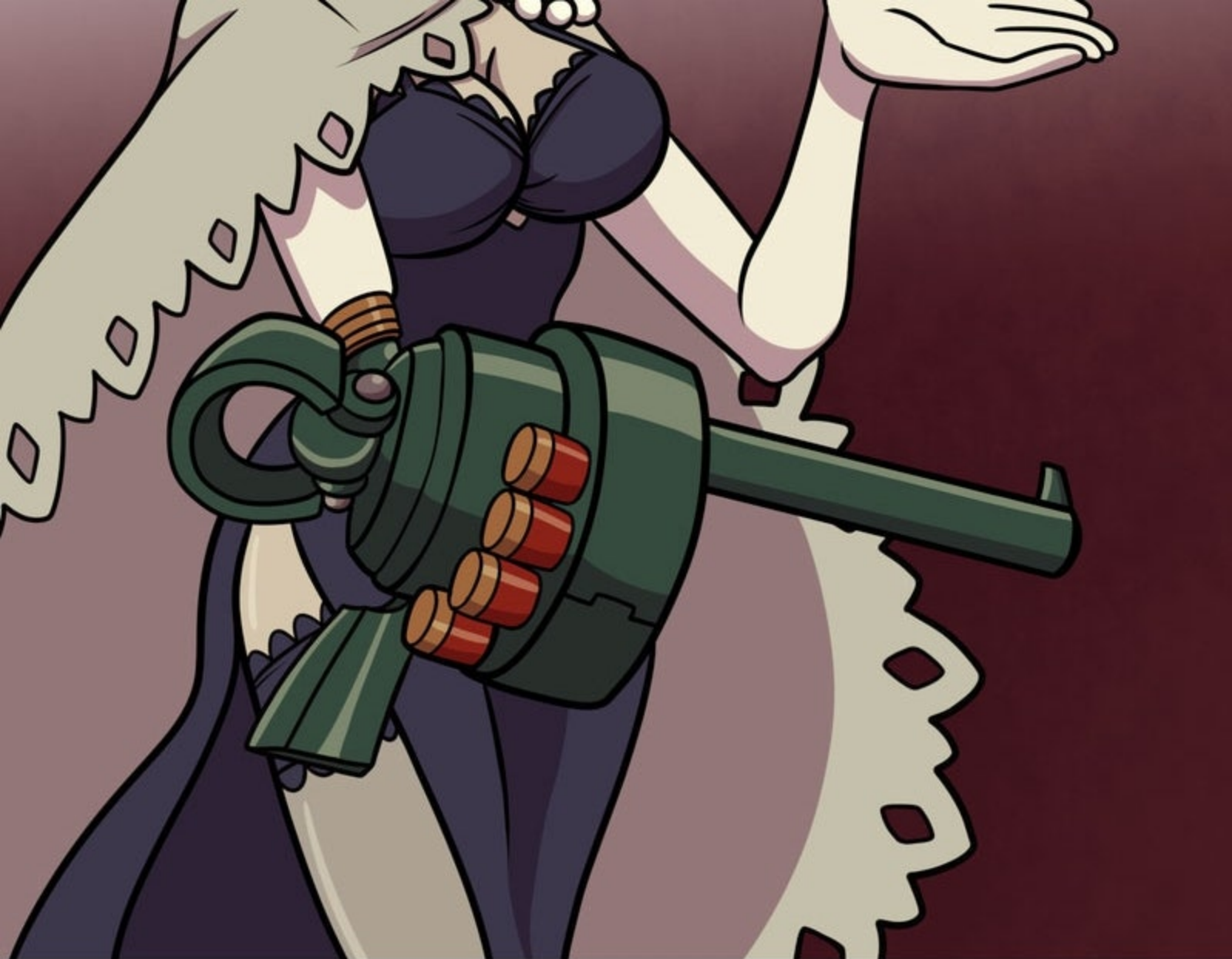


THEN SHE WOULD BE A FOOL.





TISK!
YOUR LOSS.



EVIDENCE WAS FOUND
IN A BUILDING OWNED BY
ONE OF YOUR EMPLOYEES,
THEODORE MEDICI.



YOU'RE STILL ON THAT?

OKAY,
I'LL BITE. WHERE IS THEO?
HE MISSED FAMILY DINNER.





DEAD.





THE MEDICI
ORGANIZATION,
MY ORGANIZATION,





EXISTS ONLY TO
BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF
NEW MERIDIAN.

ANY SUGGESTION
TO THE CONTRARY WOULD
NOT ONLY BE WRONG, BUT
PROSECUTABLE.

MY SON, VITALE,
HAS MANY FRIENDS IN THE
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. I HAVE NO
DOUBT HE'D BE DELIGHTED TO
INTRODUCE YOU TO
THEM IN COURT.





IT WOULD BE MY
DISTINCT PLEASURE.





HAVE AT IT. I'M NOT
AFRAID OF YOUR FATHER,

AND I'M CERTAINLY
NOT AFRAID OF A BOOT-LICKING
CONSIGLIERE LIKE YOU.





SPARE US THE POSTURING,
YOUR HIGHNESS.



WOULDN'T YOU
RATHER WE RESOLVE THIS
LIKE **CIVILIZED** PEOPLE?





CIVILIZED?
DRESS YOUR WORDS
UP AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE,
BUT YOU'RE STILL
LOW-LIFE SCU--

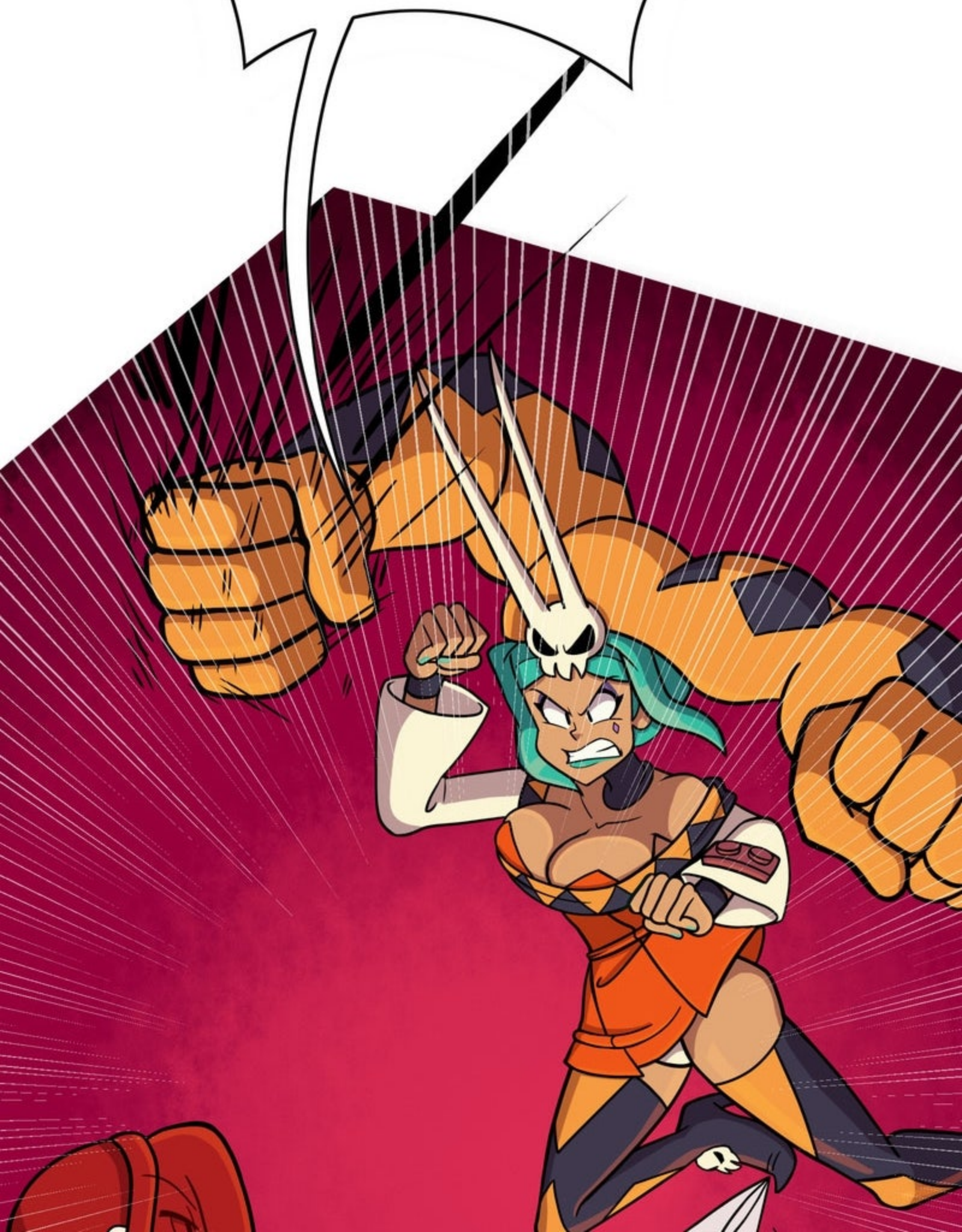




THAT'S IT!



IF YOU WON'T
SHUT YOUR FILTHY
RENOIR MOUTH,
I'LL SHUT IT FOR YOU!







AIN'T THIS THE LIFE?
A BEAUTIFUL, STARLIT SKY,
THE WIND THROUGH MY HAIR,
AND NOT A CARE
IN THE WORLD.



I COULD DO
THIS ALL NIGHT.



HOWZABOUT
YOU BUMS?!

HUFF! PUFF!

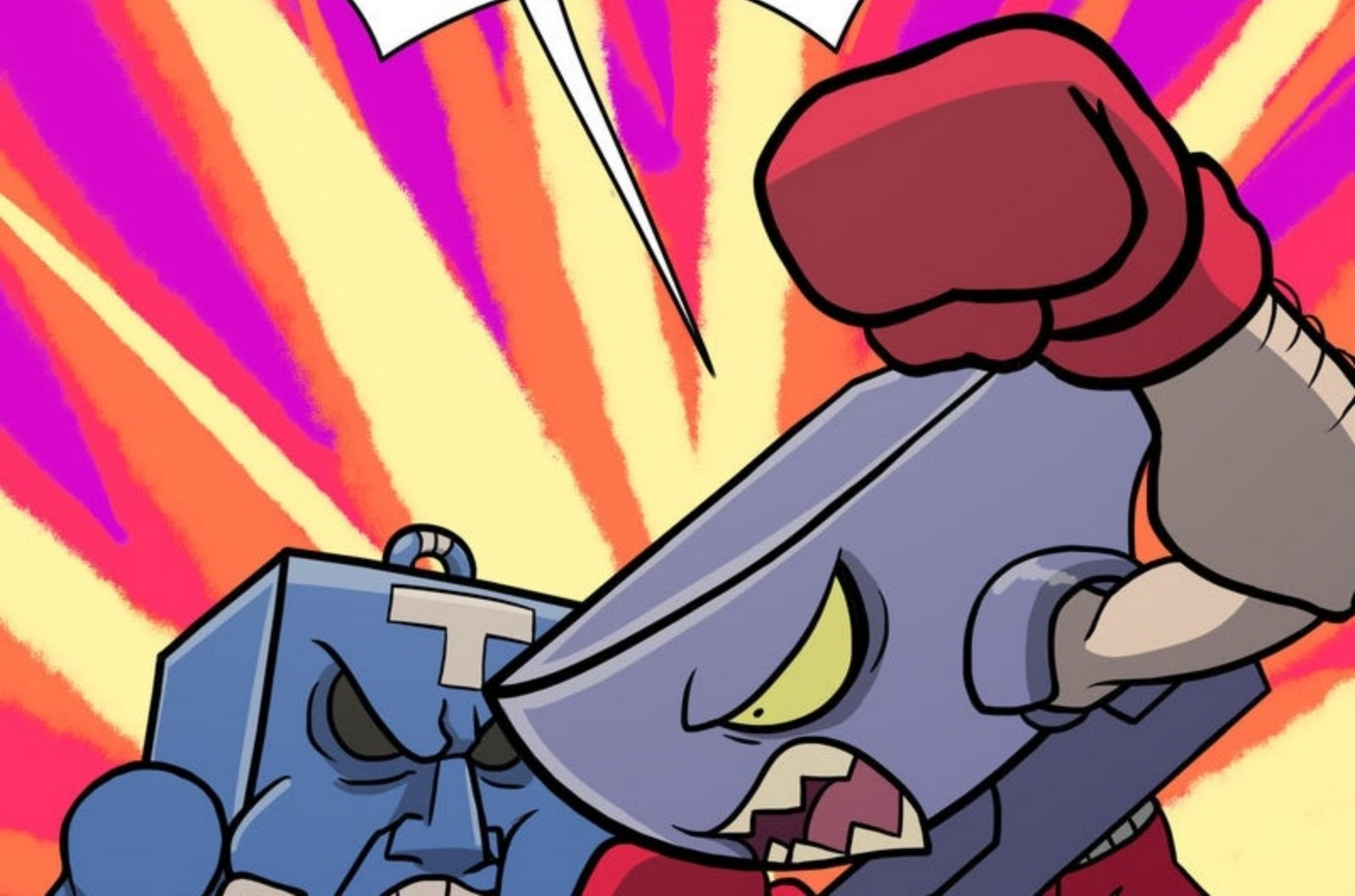
IT'S...
IT'S GREAT BOSS,
A REAL TREAT!



**SPEAK FOR YERSELF,
YA STORK-LEGGED
PAPERWEIGHT!**

**WE'RE DYING
OUT HERE!**

**IT'S YER OWN FAULT!
WE WOULDN'T BE RUNNING LAPS
IF YOU GOONS HADN'T GOT US
KICKED OUT THE CIRCUS!**





WHAT'RE YA
SQUAWKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE JUST AS MUCH TO
BLAME AS ANY OF US!



QUIET DOWN
BACK THERE!



I SWEAR, AVERY,
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE
I CAN RELY ON.

THE REST OF THESE GOONS
NEED WHIPPING INTO SHAPE IF
WE'RE GONNA HAVE ANY CHANCE
AT GETTING WHAT WE WANT.





SPEAKING OF WHICH

STEAKING OF WHICH...

PICK UP THE PACE, BOYS!
I WANNA HEAR LESS RUNNING MOUTHS
AND MORE RUNNING FEET!













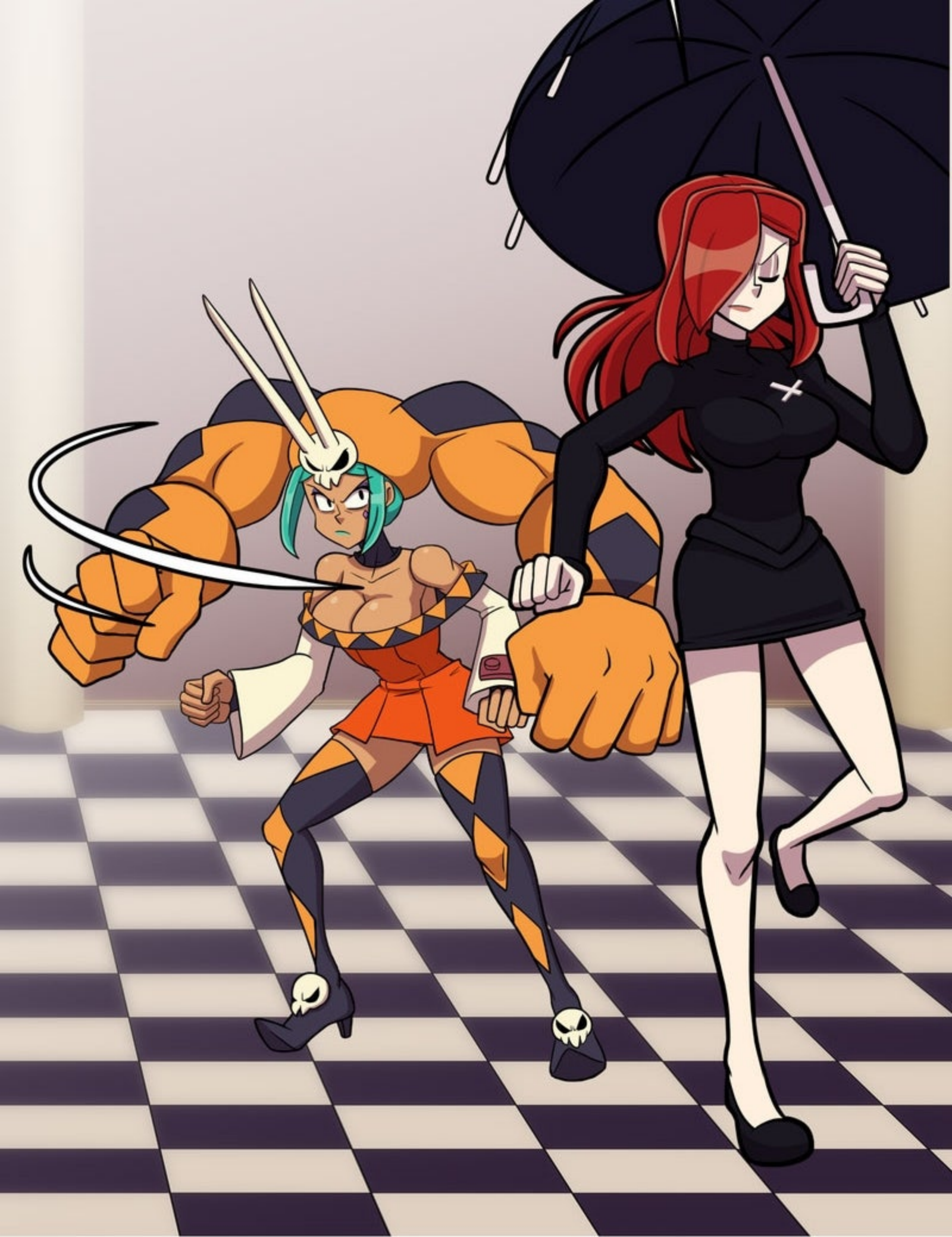
**I'VE GOT A
FEELING WE'RE ON THE
RIGHT TRACK!**







**STOP THIS!
CAN'T YOU SEE HOW
POINTLESS IT ALL IS?**



NO MATTER YOUR
OPINION OF MY FAMILY,
THE MEDICI ARE UNDENIABLY
WORSE!

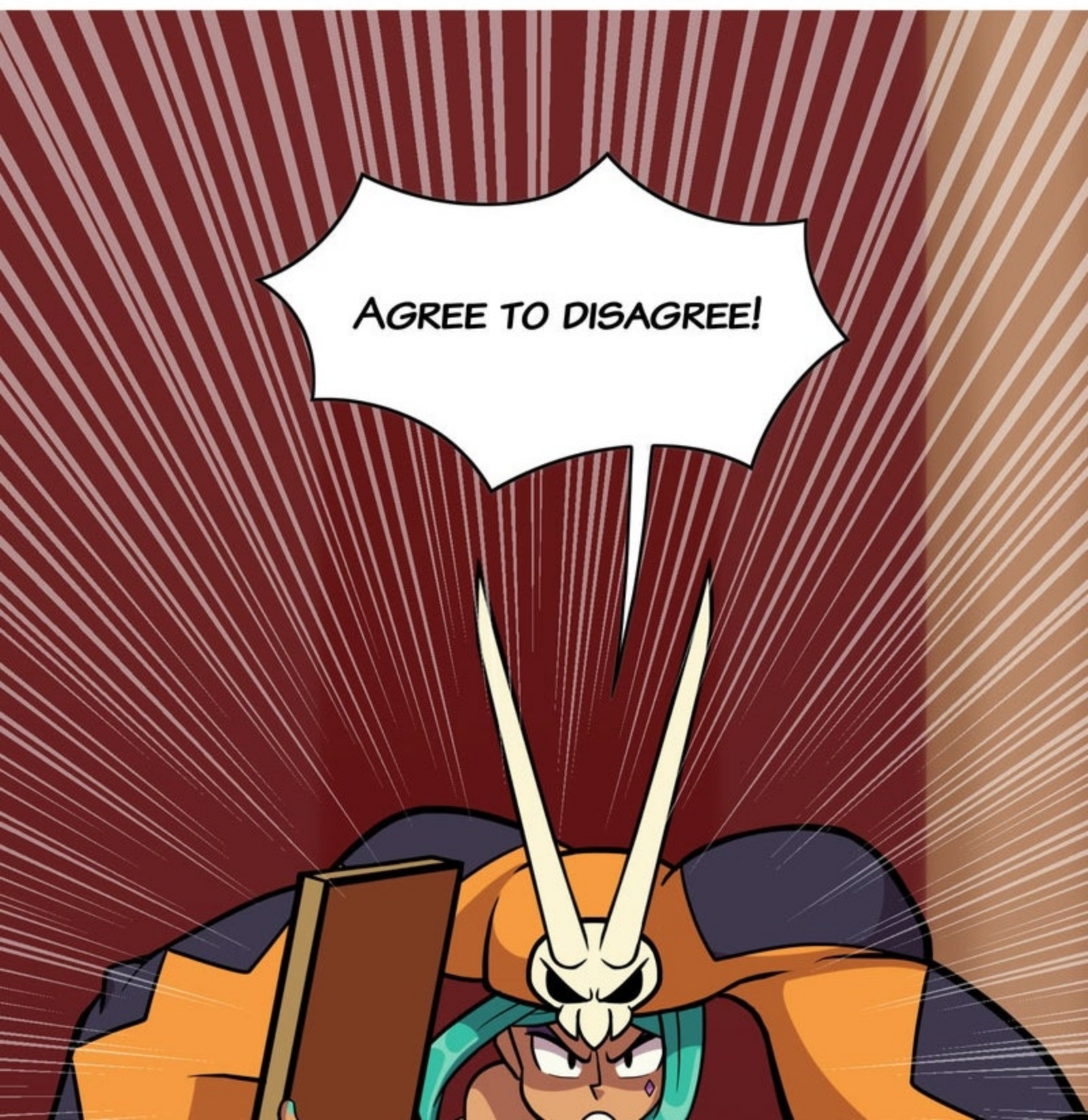






YEAH,
WELL HOW ABOUT
WE...

AGREE TO DISAGREE!





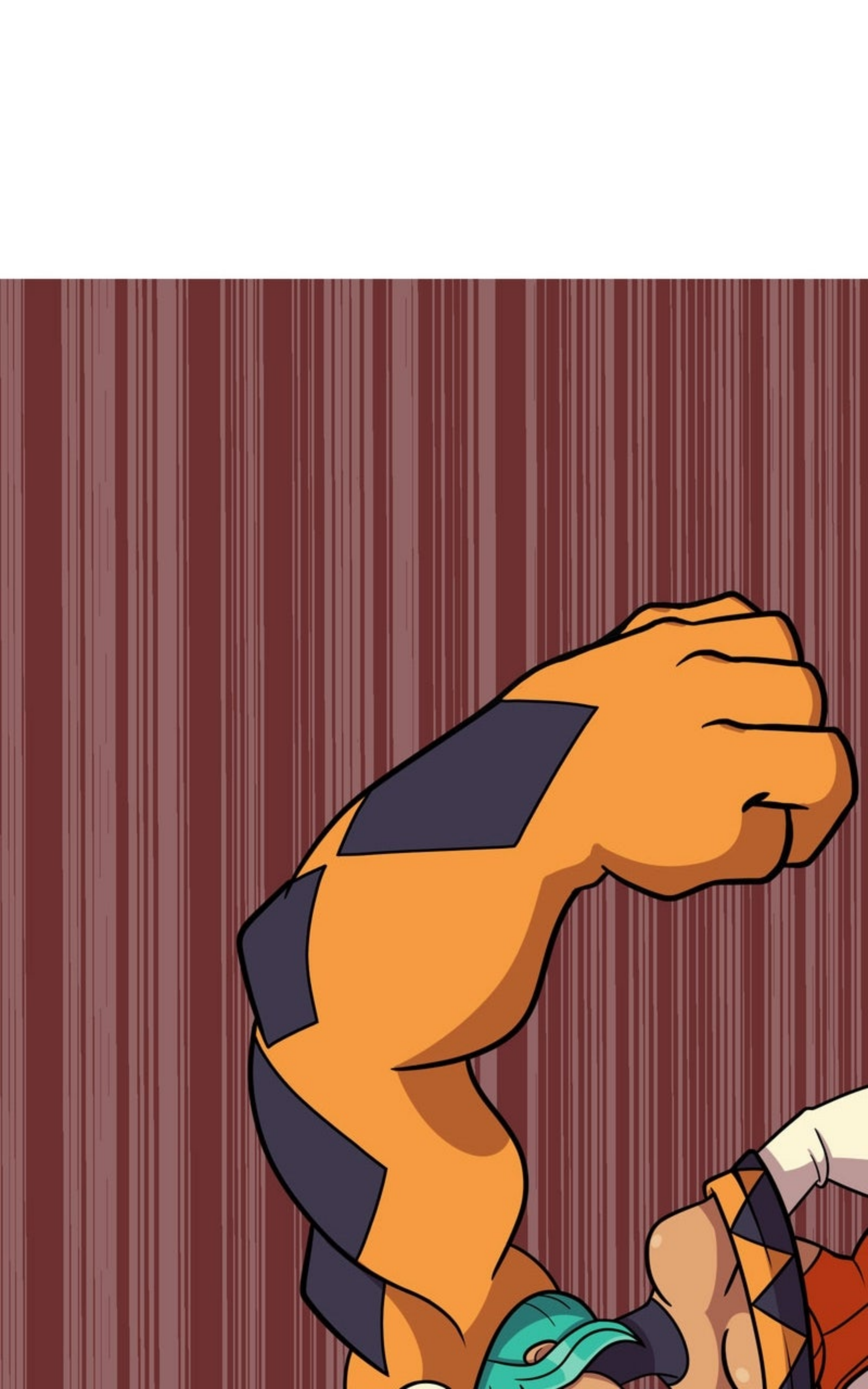


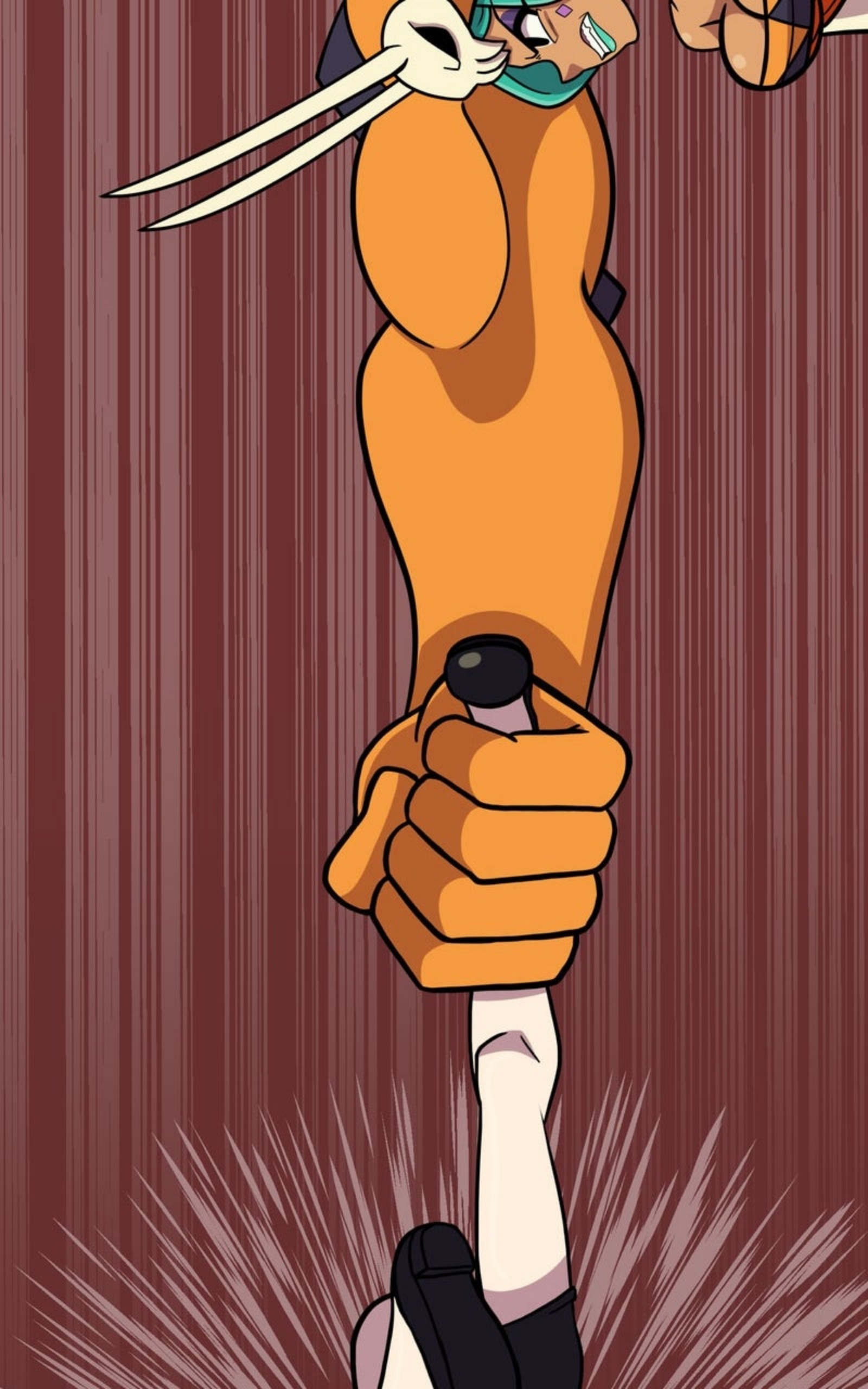
WATCH YOUR STEP
PRINCESS!













THERE GOES
MY EXPENSIVE
PORTRAIT.

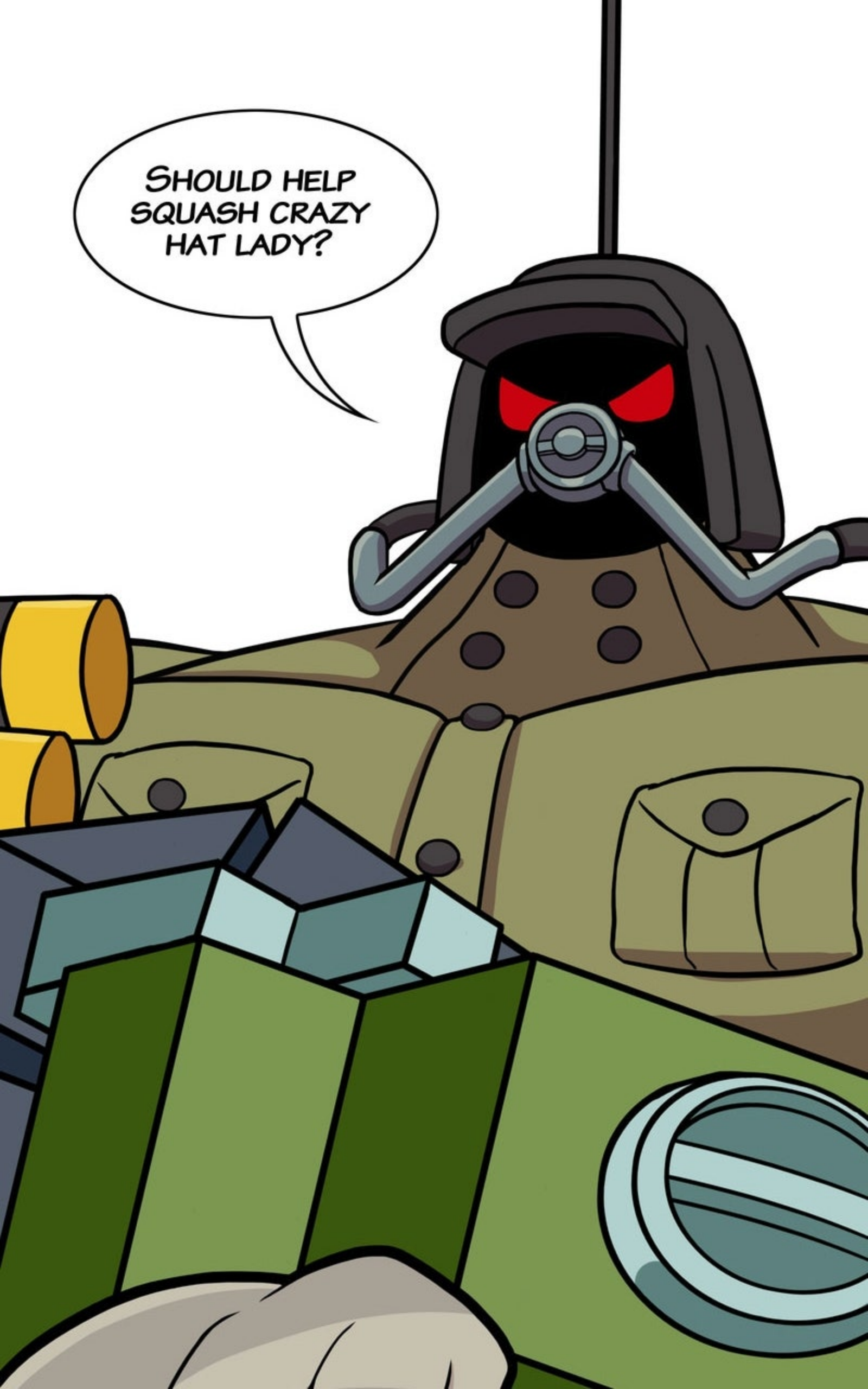




HO HO! YES
I QUITE ENJOY THE
DESTRUCTION!



SHOULD HELP
SQUASH CRAZY
HAT LADY?

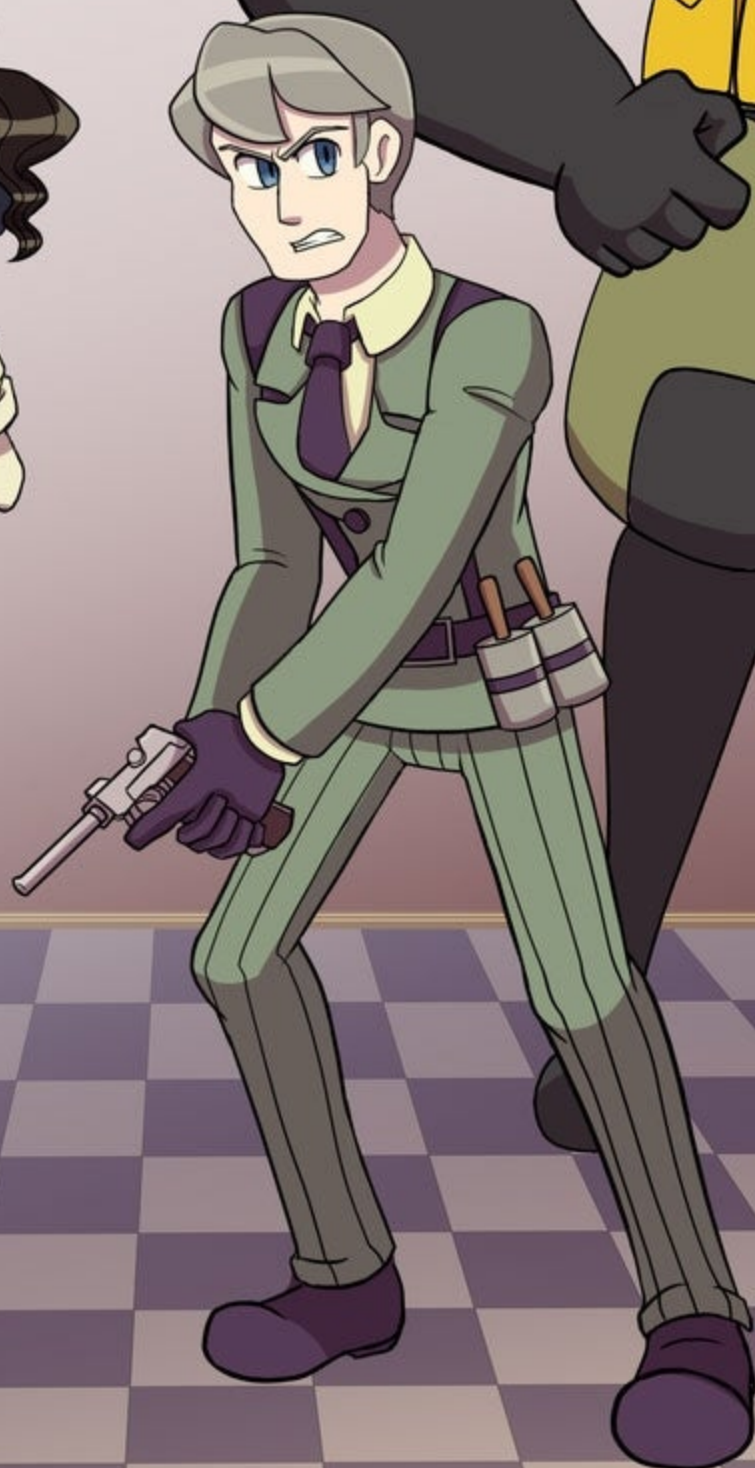




HER HIGHNESS
IS MORE THAN CAPABLE
OF HANDLING THAT
RABBLE.



ADAM'S RIGHT...
JUST MAKE SURE
THE OTHERS DON'T
TRY ANYTHING!





YES.

LET'S SEE WHAT THE
SPOILED BRAT IS CAPABLE
OF ON HER OWN.





KICK





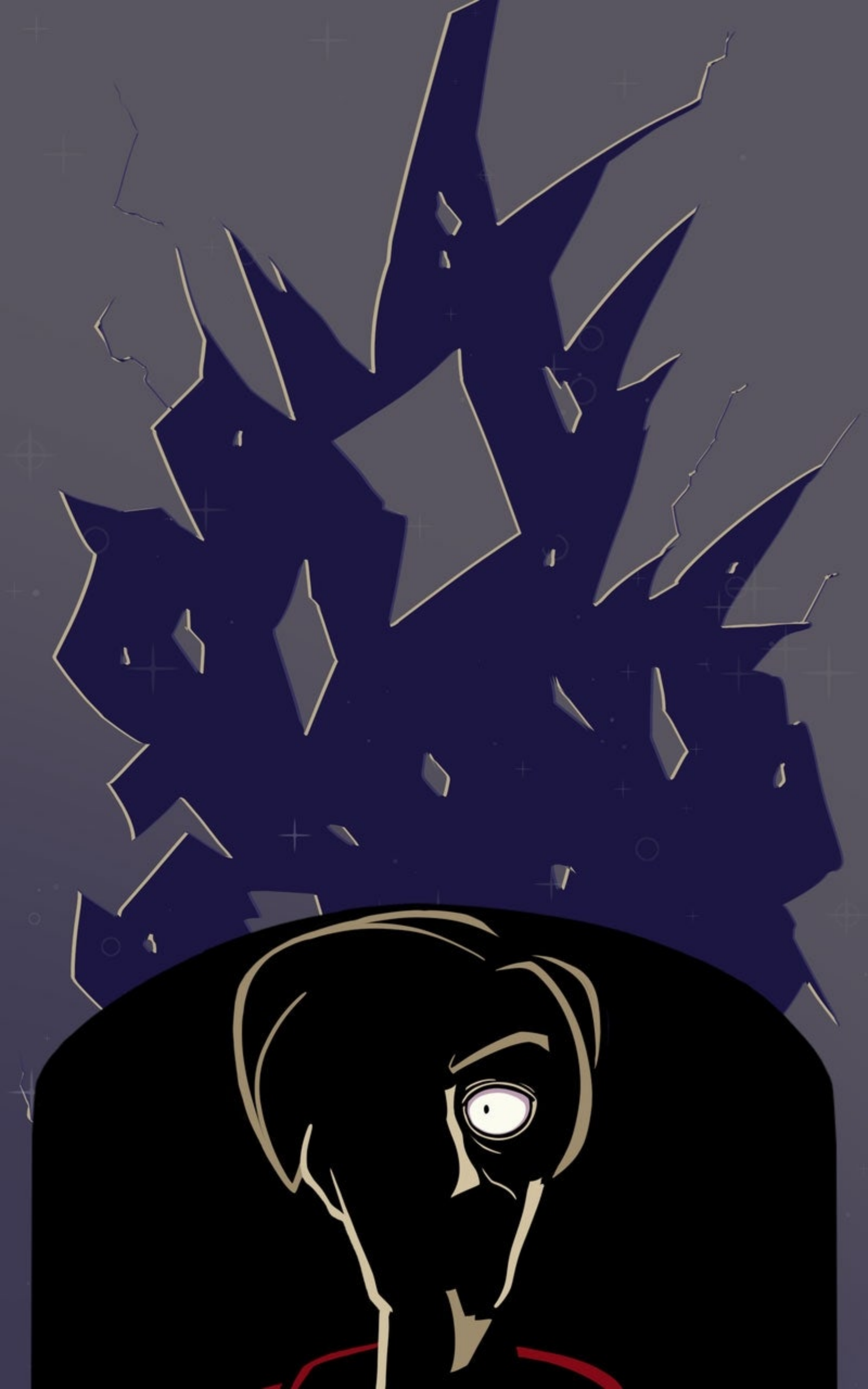


PERHAPS NOW
WOULD BE A GOOD TIME
TO BREAK THINGS UP.

NONSENSE.
EVERYTHING'S PERFECTLY
UNDER CONTROL.



CRACK!





NO... NOT NOW.





LORENZO MEDICI!





FATE WOULD LIKE A WORD!



